

# Care for thy soul

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Superius  
[Soprano]

Medius  
[Alto]  
*The first singing part*

Contratenor  
[Alto]

Tenor  
[Tenor]

Bassus  
[Bass]

Care for thy soul as thing of great - est price, care

Care

Care for thy soul as thing of great - est price, care

Care for thy soul as thing of great - est price, care

Care for thy soul as thing of great - est price, care

for thy soul as thing of great - est price, made to the end to

for thy soul as thing of great - est price, made to the

for thy soul as thing of great - est price, made to the end

for thy soul, for thy soul, as thing of great - est price, made to the end to taste

for thy soul as thing of great - est price, of great - est price, made to the

10

taste of power di-vine, di - vine, of power di - vine, de - void of

end to taste of power di - vine, de - void of guilt, ab -

to taste of power di - vine, de - void of guilt, of guilt,

of power di - vine, of power di - vine, di - vine, de - void of guilt,

end to taste of power di - vine, de - void of guilt, ab-hor-ring

guilt, ab-hor-ring sin and vice, apt by God's grace to vir-tue to in -

-hor-ring sin and vice, apt by God's grace to vir-tue to in -

ab-hor-ring sin and vice, apt by God's grace to vir-tue to in -

— ab-hor-ring sin and vice, apt by God's grace to vir-tue to in -

sin and vice, sin and vice, apt by God's grace to vir-tue to in -

20

-cline, to in-cline, care for it so, as by thy retch - less

-cline, care for it so, as by thy retch - less

-cline, to in-cline, care for it so, as by thy retch - less

-cline, to in-cline, care for it so, as by thy

-cline, to in-cline, care for it so, as by thy retch - less

train, it be not brought to taste, e-ter-nal

train, it be not brought to taste, to taste e-ter-nal

train, it be not brought to taste e-ter-nal pain, to taste e-ter-nal

— retch - less train, it be not brought to taste e-ter-nal

train, thy retch - less train, it be not brought to taste e-ter-nal

30

pain. Care for it so, as by thy retch - less

pain. Care for it so, as by thy retch - less

pain. Care so, as by thy retch - less train, thy retch-less

pain. Care for it so, as by thy

pain. Care for it so, as by thy retch - less

train, it be not brought to taste e - ter - nal pain.

train, it be not brought to taste, to taste e - ter - nal pain.

train, it be not brought to taste e - ter - nal pain, to taste e - ter - nal pain.

— retch - less train, it be not brought to taste e - ter - nal pain.

train, thy retch - less train, it be not brought to taste e - ter - nal pain.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Care for thy soule as thing of greatest price,<br/>made to the end to tast of power devine,<br/>devoide of guilt, abhorring sinne and vice,<br/>apt by Gods grace to vertue to encline,<br/>care for it so, as by thy retchlesse traine,<br/>it bee not brought to tast eternall paine.</p>        | <p>3. Care for the world to do thy body right,<br/>rack not thy wit to win by wicked waies,<br/>seek not t'opresse the weak by wrongfull might,<br/>to pay thy due do banish all delaies:<br/>Care to dispend according to thy store,<br/>and in like sort be mindfull of the poore.</p>                |
| <p>2. Care for thy corps, but chiefly for soules sake<br/>cut of excesse, sustaining food is best,<br/>to vanquish pride, but comely clothing take,<br/>seeke after skill, deep ignorance detest:<br/>Care so I say, the flesh to feed and cloth,<br/>that thou harme not thy soule &amp; body both.</p> | <p>4. Care for thy soule, as for thy chiefest stay,<br/>care for thy bodie for the soules avails,<br/>care for the world for bodies help alway,<br/>care yet but so as vertue may prevaile,<br/>care in such sort that thou be sure of this,<br/>care keep thee not from heaven &amp; heavenly blis</p> |

Source: William Byrd, *Psalmes, Sonets, & songs of sadnes and pietie* (London, 1588), no.31.

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